

CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF WASHINGTON, D.C. 20318-9999

HOLIDAY GREETING 2006

The holiday season serves as a great time to reflect on the things in life that we hold dear. It is also an opportunity to celebrate our many gifts. Your service to our Nation is a selfless gift to your fellow Americans. Your steadfast vigilance allows our citizens to enjoy the holidays with the comfort that comes from knowing you are standing watch.

Many of you are on duty around the globe and will be unable to spend the holidays with your loved ones. This is an especially difficult time to be away from home, and I salute your strong sense of duty and patriotism. You are making a difference -- thank you for your sacrifice. The Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen of this great Nation are committed to making "peace on earth" a reality for all. The Joint Chiefs and I are honored to serve with you.

Lynne joins me in wishing you and your families a joyous holiday season and a happy and peace-filled new year.

PETER PACE

General, United States Marine Corps Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff